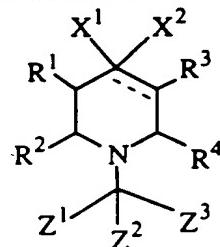


ABSTRACT

Novel compounds of the formula



- 5 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, wherein:
the dotted line represents an optional double bond;
X¹ is optionally substituted alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or heterocycloalkyl;
X² is -CHO, -CN, optionally substituted amino, alkyl, or aryl;
10 or X¹ is optionally substituted benzofused heterocyclyl and X² is hydrogen;
or X¹ and X² together form an optionally benzofused spiro heterocyclyl group
R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ are independently H and alkyl, or (R¹ and R⁴) or (R² and R³) or (R¹ and R³) or (R² and R⁴) together can form an alkylene bridge of 1 to 3 carbon atoms;
15 Z¹ is optionally substituted alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl, or -CO₂(alkyl or substituted amino) or CN ; Z² is H or Z¹; Z³ is H or alkyl; or Z¹, Z² and Z³, together with the carbon to which they are attached, form bicyclic saturated or unsaturated rings;
20 pharmaceutical compositions therefore, and the use of said compounds as nociceptin receptor inhibitors useful in the treatment of pain, anxiety, cough, asthma, depression and alcohol abuse are disclosed.